

Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

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RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 AID-20

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R 270806Z MAR 74

FM AMEMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 122

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL HONG KONG 3433

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH TZ

SUBJ: CHOU'S SPEECH AT NYERERE BANQUET

SUMMARY: POSSIBLY REFLECTING THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN CHINA, CHOU EN-LAI IN A MARCH 24 SPEECH HIGHLIGHTED THE MARXIST- LENINIST AS WELL AS THE NATIONALISTIC NATURE OF CHINA'S SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES. END SUMMARY.

1. IN HIS SPEECH AT THE MARCH 24 BANQUET FOR TANZANIAN PRESIDENT NYERERE, CHOU EN-LAI HIGHLIGHTED THE MARXIST- LENINIST AS WELL AS NATIONALISTIC NATURE OF CHINA'S SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES. CHOU NOTED THAT CHINA IS A SOCIALIST COUNTRY AND THAT ITS "PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALIST DUTY IS TO SYMPATHIZE WITH AND SUPPORT THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES OF THE PEOPLE OF OTHER COUNTRIES." IN A RHETOR- CONFIDENTIAL

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ICAL QUESTION WHOSE COLLOQUIAL PHRASING SOUNDED MORE LIKE

MAO THAN CHOU, THE PREMIER ASKED, "HOW CAN A COMMUNIST PARTY OR A SOCIALIST COUNTRY BE WORTHY OF ITS NAME IF IT DOES NOT SUPPORT THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES?" CHOU PROMISED THAT CHINA WOULD INDEED FIRMLY SUPPORT THE "STRUGGLES OF ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE'S AND ALL OPPRESSED NATIONS."

2. PREVIOUSLY IN WELCOMING SPEECHES FOR THIRD WORLD LEADERS, SUCH AS THOSE GIVEN ON THE OCCASION OF VISITS BY KAUNDA AND BOUMEDIENE LAST MONTH, CHOU'S CATALOGUING OF THE PRC PARTY

IDENTIFICATION WITH WORLD FORCES HAS USUALLY BEEN LIMITED TO RE-

AFFIRMATION OF CHINA'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE THIRD WORLD OR (AS IN THE CASE OF HIS BANQUET SPEECH FOR NEPAL'S KING BIRENDRA LAST DECEMBER) TO THE STATEMENT THAT CHINA IS A "DEVELOPING SOCIALIST COUNTRY." WITH NON-COMMUNIST VISITORS CHOU'S REFERENCES TO CHINA'S SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES HAS BEEN CAST STRICTLY IN A NATIONALISTIC, ANTI-COLONIAL, ANTI-IMPERIALIST OR ANTI-SUPERPOWER FRAMEWORK. IN SUCH SPEECHES THE PREMIER HAS AVOIDED ANY REMINDER THAT CHINA IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING COMMUNIST CAUSES.

3. IN THIS LATEST SPEECH, CHOU'S REFERENCES TO THE PEOPLE'S ARMED STRUGGLE IN AFRICA MADE CLEAR THAT HE WAS REFERRING ONLY TO THE COLONIAL AND WHITE MINORITY -CONTROLLED AREAS. (CHOU STATED THAT THE INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES " ON THE BASIS OF STRUGGLES WAGED IN THE FIRST DEVDE ARE ADVANCING VICTORIOUSLY ALONG THE ROAD OF CONSOLIDATING POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND WINNING ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE.") NEVERTHELESS, THE PREMIER'S PASSAGE ON CHINA'S ULTIMATE IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENT IS MOST UNUSUAL AND POSSIBLY IS A REFLECTION OF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN CHINA.

4. CHOU ALSO ADDED A NEW IDEOLOGICAL WRINKLE TO CHINA'S WORLD VIEW OF "GREAT DISORDER." THE PREMIER LINKED THE STRUGGLE OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AGAINST THE SUPERPOWERS WITH THE STRUGGLE OF THE MASSES IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES AGAINST MONOPOLY-CAPITAL'S EXPLOITATION THESE TWO STRUGGLES, HE SAID , ARE SUPPORTING EACH OTHER AND DEVELOPING IN DEPTH AND BREADTH. EARLIER PRONOUNCEMENTS IN PEKING MEDIA

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HAD DEFINED THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IN THE WEST AND JAPAN AS PART OF THE CURRENT "WORLD UPHEAVAL". CHOU'S STATEMENT IS THE FIRST LINKING OF THE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THIS PHENOMENA TO THE THIRD WORLD ANTI-SUPERPOWER STRUGGLE. THUS A FACTOR WITH SOCIAL OR CLASS CONTENT IS ADDED TO WHAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN A PICTURE ESSENTIALLY OF POWER POLITICS.

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